

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 SAM-01 MC-02 OMB-01 EB-11 TRSE-00 AID-20

XMB-07 IGA-02 DRC-01 /143 W
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R 131240Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY QUITO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9987

C O N F I D E N T I A L QUITO 0991

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, EC

SUBJ: ECUADOREAN AIR FORCE INQUIRY RE AIRCRAFT PURCHASES

REF: A. QUITO 0481; B. 0579; C. 0697

1. FOLLOWING IS OUR UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION OF GOE DEFENSE
MINISTER'S NOTE TO GOE FOREIGN MINISTER, CLASSIFIED SECRET,
WHICH WAS ORIGINALLY TRANSMITTED TO US BY MINISTER OF
DEFENSE UNDER COVER OF LETTER DATED JANUARY 22, REFERRED
TO IN REF A:

QUOTE:

MR. MINISTER:

IN THE LAST PREPARATORY MEETING OF COMMANDING GENERALS OF
THE AIR FORCES OF THE AMERICAS, WHICH TOOK PLACE IN THE
PANAMA CANAL ZONE, THE DELEGATE OF THE COMMANDING GENERAL
OF THE ECUADOREAN AIR FORCE RECEIVED INFORMATION THAT THE
GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF NORTH AMERICA WOULD BE
INTERESTED IN RESUMING SUPPLY AND TRAINING RELATIONSHIPS
WITH ECUADOR, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TELEGRAPHIC
COMMUNICATION WHICH I ATTACH TO THIS LETTER.

THEREFORE, I WOULD BE GRATEFUL TO YOU, MR. MINISTER, IF
YOU WOULD GIVE THE APPROPRIATE INSTRUCTIONS TO THE
AMBASSADOR OF ECUADOR IN WASHINGTON, TO APPROACH THE
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CORRESPONDING AUTHORITIES OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED

STATES OF NORTH AMERICA IN ORDER TO OBTAIN NECESSARY INFORMATION ON THE POSSIBILITY OF SALE BY THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE OF THE UNITED STATES OF THE FOLLOWING TYPES OF AIRCRAFT WHICH ARE OF INTEREST TO THE ECUADOREAN AIR FORCE:

12 AIRCRAFT PHANTOM F-4

12 AIRCRAFT F-5E

12 AIRCRAFT AT-37

ARMAMENTS AND WAR MATERIALS APPROPRIATE FOR EACH ONE OF THE AIRCRAFT MENTIONED ABOVE.

THE INFORMATION TO BE OBTAINED OUGHT TO INCLUDE THE CONDITIONS OF SALE OF THIS EQUIPMENT, PRICES, TIME OF DELIVERY, METHODS OF FINANCING, ETC.

BECAUSE THE ECUADOREAN AIR FORCE REQUIRES THE REQUESTED INFORMATION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, I WOULD BE GRATEFUL MR. MINISTER IF YOU WOULD INSTRUCT THE AMBASSADOR OF ECUADOR IN WASHINGTON IN SUCH A WAY THAT THE NEGOTIATIONS BE CONDUCTED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

A COPY OF THIS COMMUNICATION IS BEING GIVEN TO THE AMBASSADOR OF THE UNITED STATES OF NORTH AMERICA (SIC) IN ECUADOR.

I WOULD BE GRATEFUL TO YOU, MR. MINISTER, IF YOU WOULD ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF THIS COMMUNICATION, AS WELL AS INFORM THIS OFFICE OF THE RESULTS OF THE NEGOTIATIONS CONDUCTED BY YOUR OFFICE IN THIS REGARD. END QUOTE

2. COMMENT: SINCE DEFENSE MINISTER'S LETTER ASKS FOREIGN MINISTRY TO INSTRUCT GOE AMBASSADOR TO RAISE MATTER OF AIRCRAFT PURCHASES WITH DEPARTMENT, WE ASSUME YOU CAN EXPECT TO HEAR FROM QUEVEDO ON THIS SUBJECT IN NEAR FUTURE. WE HAVE NO COMMENT ON SPECIFIC MERITS OF ANTICIPATED GOE EQUIPMENT INQUIRIES EXCEPT TO NOTE THAT THEIR MAGNITUDE REFLECTS, AT LEAST IN PART, PENT-UP DEMAND FROM NOT HAVING MADE ANY MAJOR ARMS PURCHASES DURING PAST THREE YEARS. THE LETTER NOTWITHSTANDING, GOE HAS BEEN TOLD AS RECENTLY AS LAST WEEK THAT IT CONTINUES TO BE US POLICY NOT TO SELL F-4'S IN ARA REGION.
BREWSTER

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Message Attributes

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